

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice DAP-330

For: State and County Offices

Increasing USDA Collaboration With SBA for Disaster Assistance Programs (DAP's)

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

GAO conducted a study of FSA and SBA DAP's to identify factors that may limit participation. The findings of this study were published in the GAO-12-844-Report in September 2012.

The study recommended that FSA and SBA officials develop a strategy to better formalize collaboration, through MOU, and educate staff about the other agency's programs. USDA, including FSA and RD, and SBA have recently entered into MOU to increase interagency collaboration and educate staff.

B Purpose

This notice expands guidance for increasing collaboration through DAP's with SBA and RD on the SBA and USDA MOU.

C SBA and USDA MOU

State and County Offices shall become familiar with the contents of MOU, previously provided in Notice FLP-663, Exhibit 1.

Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2014 1-30-14	State Offices; State Office relay to County Offices

2 Increasing USDA Collaboration With SBA and Cross Training

A Initiating Contact With Local Representatives and Local Partners

To increase collaboration, applicable State and County Office program representatives, that work with ECP, EFRP, ELAP, LFP, LIP, NAP, TAP, SURE, and any other disaster programs, should contact RD and SBA regional or district offices in their local area. The items to discuss should include the following:

- FSA, RD, and SBA DAP's currently available to local agriculture producers or owners of nonindustrial private forests
- joint participation in applicable FSA, RD, and SBA training sessions
- joint participation in applicable State and county Food and Agriculture Committee and Emergency Board meetings
- joint outreach/marketing efforts.

Local SBA regional or district offices and local SBA partners can be found at <http://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance>.

B USDA and SBA Cross-Training Initiative

For USDA and SBA to effectively collaborate to assist agriculture producers, each agency shall:

- become familiar with each partner agency's DAP's
- develop and maintain effective working relationships
- invite all agencies to DAP training sessions
- develop a network of joint resources partners.

USDA, including FSA and RD, and SBA National Offices, are developing a cross-training program to assist in implementing the USDA and SBA cross-training initiative.